

see this man?¹ he said to we, point in;: with his :q»onn to the stranger; 'he in an aristocrat, a Uourhonist, a rhoutm; it j_s the Abbe —, one of the- editors of the *Jnurnn*? </nv *Ik'/mfs* — a sworn enemy to Napoleon, a fanatic partisan of the Bourbons; he is one of our men."* I looked at him. At every fresh epithet of the Minister the Abbe bowed his head down to his plate with a smile of cheerfulness and seir-eomplaeeney, and with a sort of leer, I never saw a more ignoble countenance. Fouche explained to me, on leaving the I»reakfast-table, in what manner all these valets of lit.enit.im* were men of his, ami while. I acknowledged to myself that the system might be necessary, I scarcely knew who were really more despicable—the wretches who thus sold themselves to the highest bidder, or the minister who boasted of having bought them, as if their acquisition were u glorious conquest. Judging that the Emperor had spoken to me of I lie scene I have described above, Konchc said to iw», *Th«ⁱ Kwperur's temper is soured by the resistance hi* finds, and he thinks it is my fault. He. does not know that I have, no power but by public opinion. To-morrow I might hang l»efore my door twenty pert»ons obnoxious to public opinion, though I ijmuld not be able to imprison for four and twenty hours any individual Favored by it.⁷ As I am never in a hurry to speak I remained silent., but, reflecting on what the Emperor had said Concerning Kouche I found the comparison of their two speeches remarkable. The master could have his minister hanged with public uppluu,sc, and the minister conic! hung—* whom ? IVrhj** tip* nutster himself, and with the. same approbation. What u singular situation I — and I believe they were l>oth in the right; so far public opinion, equitable* in regard to Koitelus hud swerved conc<*rning the Kin|«»ror."

Let us now turn to Napoleon in his novel character of constitutional monarch. One of hi.s first professions in that, capacity was his granting full liberty to tin* prrss. "The press," said ho, "that mighty engine of enlightenment, shall be infinitely more free in France than in Knglami!^{lf} To e.arry this into execution he established in&fH'rtttr* «//i#* twukwltr.[™]! "The Minister of Police (Fouchfi), a

frituid of lilwrty, but,"